The Augusta Coin Club Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month at the Sunrise Grill, 3830 Washington Rd. Martinez

The Augusta Coin Club since 1959

Pres. Shelby Plooster
1st V.P. Burles Johnson
2nd V.P. Tommy Rhoden
Sec. John T. Attaway
Treas. Stacey Plooster
Sgt. in Arms: Bryan Hoyt

Club Mailing Address
Augusta Coin Club
P.O. Box 2084
Evans, GA 30809
Web site:
www.augustacoinclub.org

Special Duties
Webmaster: Robert Sanborn
Newsletter editor, Arno Safran
E-mail: arnosafran@comcast.net
Bourse Chairman, Steven Nix
Auction: Burles Johnson
Bids Recorder, Tommy Rhoden

Volume 25, Number 2 **THE AUGUSTA COIN CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** **February, 2026**

Our next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 20, 2026, early arrivals from 6:00 PM

Collecting Early U.S. Copper Coinage

Club Meeting Calendar for 2026

Jan. 15	May 15	Sep. 18
Feb. 20	June 19	Oct. 16
Mar. 20	July 17	Nov. 20
Apr. 17	Aug. 21	Dec. 18

Collecting the U.S. Large Cents from 1840 thru 1850

An 1840 Small & Large date Copper Large cents
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

The early large cents from 1793 thru 1814 tend to be quite scarce and expensive. The middle dates from 1816 thru 1839 are less so with a few dates still quite scarce and costly but have some scarce dates within them, The large cents from produced from 1840 to the end of their run--tend to be far less expensive and far more affordable. However a number of them have different date sizes along with other minor subtitles.

After 1839--when there were five different die varieties created--the large cent began to settle down. I 1840 there were two major varieties showing a small date (shown above at left and a larger date (shown above at the right) that are considered fairly common and affordable to acquire. The reverses appear to remain the same. Both coins were graded XF-45 and are quite attractive. There is also a rare small date over a **large 18** in the date not shown due to its extreme rarity. The mintage for the 1840 large cents was **2,462,700** so it is a fairly common date and less expensive to acquire.

An 1841 Petite Head large cent also graded XF-45

The Petite head is supposed to be dipping slightly downward like the coin shown directly above**.** While the mintage was only 1,597,367, it is s till considered a common date.

The 1842 small and large date Petite Head Large cents
2,168,445 large cents were struck that year; both common dates

Unlike the previous large cent types with each having special names beginning in 1793 with the **Liberty Cap** (1793-1796**), Draped Bust**, (1796 to 1807), **Classic Head,** (1808-1814), the Coronet design created by (also named Matron Head), (1816 thru 1857, the end of the large cents run), starting with the Petite Head, the large cent had different titles the coin type as it was modernly altered over the use took on other tittles such as Petite head, starting in 1843, the last time the petite head was struck, the Braided Hair type created by Christian Gobrecht arrived in the second half of 1843; (See the trio types shown

on page 2, column 1). The coin design on the right appears weaker, (the Petite Head) compared with the coin shown on the right (the Braded Hair) which would continue virtually unchanged to the very end of the Large cent in 1857.

The1843 Petite Head at left gave way to The 1843 Mature Head at right
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

At first, the obverses of the two large cents shown directly above may appear to a newcomer as the same type but while the Petite Head looks down, the Braided Hair is placed directly upright with stronger features than the Petite Head and is later nicknamed "the Mature Head". Large cents of this period grading from VF-35 to AU-50 are not charged all that much by dealers and are affordable in this grade range today. The Petite Head at the left was graded only VF-20 compared with the Braided hair on the right which was graded AU-50, one of the reasons the Petite head appears slightly weaker compared to the Braided Hair. The Petite Head example was featured as an N9, Rarity 3 by Harold Newcomb who was a coin dealer and a specialist in the later large cent series and wrote a book on these vey coins. The 1843 Braided Hair on the other hand in its first year of existence as a somewhat newer type is a Rarity 4 which means this particular variety is somewhat scarce. It was obtained by the writer away back in 1993

An 1844 Braided Hair large cent, N2, R3 large cent large cent
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

The 1844 large cent shown above was graded XF-40. It had a massive mintage of 2,398,752. It was graded on the cusp of common and sc raced. Once you reach R4, the coin is considered more difficult to find. Upon enlarging the page the reader will find above the word LIBERY, is clear but the hair of Miss Liberty less sharp although most of the coin looks slightly used. The coin is also an early die state.

An 1845 Braided Hair cent, N1, R4+ graded XF-45
3,894,800 were minted in 1845 but the variety is rare.

An 1846 Braided Hair large cent graded AU-55, N-1, R3
4,120,800 were minted in1846, the largest of the era.

The 1846 large cent had three main verities, one featuring a small date, a medium size date and the large date. Above is the large date version and directly below is the 1846 Medium date version

An 1846 Braided Hair Medium date Braided Hair cent Graded AU-58

An 1846 Braided Hair Large cent featuring the tall date on the obverse graded AU-50

One might wonder why the writer acquired all three of the 1846 Braided Hair coinage. In 1976 the nation celebrated its 200th year of existence and all kinds of coin shows were taking place. The author was residing in Central, NJ, 65 miles south from New York city and 60 miles north of Philadelphia. There were 123 coin club in New Jersey alone not mention those in the Philadelphia and New Your city areas.

During that era, many of the more educated coin collectors were collecting Early American copper coins and belonged to coin EAC, the major club across the nation. So, when the author was beginning to learn more a bout coin collecting, many of the EAC

members were showing off die varieties of early American large cents as well as the smaller half-cents going back to 1793. Most of the coins shown in this article are from that era; pre 21st century.

An 1847 Braided Hair Large cent graded XF-45
Despite the lower grade of XF-45, the 1847 is a gorgeous example of the Braided Hair large cent.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

Collecting the U.S. Large Cents from 1840 thru 1849

(Continued from page 2, column 2)

The 1847 Braided Hair Large cent graded XF-45 again

The reported mintage for the 1847 large cent was 6,183,689, a record f or that time. The variety is Newcomb 8, Rarity **2 which** represents a fairly common date. Nevertheless an XF-45 graded coin can appear almost as nice as an uncirculated one since the example shown is well struck and quite attractive with lots of eye appeal**.**

An 1848 Braided Hair Large cent N-29, R4 graded AU50

The 1848 Braided Hair Large cent is also an attractive example of the coin type. All the aspects of the coin are clear and visible to the viewer although Miss Liberty's hair is somewhat flattened; in other words, not very sharp. The coin is an R4 which means it is somewhat scarce and on the cusp of being more difficult to find. Nevertheless, it appears still charming to the viewer if ne likes the style.

An 1849 Braided Hair Large cent, N-16, R6 graded AU-50
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

The 1849 example of the Braided Hair large cent shown directly above was sold as an N-16 die variety graded ***R6*** which if true is worth a bonanza! The coin was acquired in December 1991 at the Mount Holly, NJ coin show. There were no EAC specialist dealers at the show so the author took the dealer's word since it cost him only $80. For an AU-50, the hair on liberty's head again appears a little soft but it may just be just the way the coin was originally struck. The reported mintage was 4,178,500, so it is a fairly common date.

An 1850 Braided Hair Large cent N-6, R2 graded AU-55
Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

By the 1850s, the citizens were becoming less attracted to using the large cent since by then people were beginning to tire using quantities of the heavy size large cent when they shopped. Nevertheless collecting these coins were a pleasure for the author and soon, othe.s will enjoy them also.

The 1850 large cent had a reported mintage of 4,426,844. The example shone was graded AU-55 (which is well up there in both grade and eye appeal.) 4,426,844 1850 large cents were released by the Philadelphia Mint that year so it is another common date.

Most of the copper large cents shone above did not circulate heavily which means a large number were saved by the citizens of their era. The coin was made of true copper which started to rise in price during the early 1850s which is another reason the large cent's use would be ended in 1857.

One of the problems the author had in dealing with collecting large cent coinage was not that the series was too expensive It wasn't! That near the end of its run, third grade grading took over the grading system which was good for the newer collectors who had to pay little for each coin they graded, but the collecting of most of the copper cents and half-cents were acquired before Third party grading came into existence so it may be more expensive 30 years later to have each coin shown graded today than its original price tag.

Se la vis!

AUGUSTA COIN CLUB, INC.
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Sunrise Grill by President, Shelby Plooster. We had 42 members present and 2 guests present.

The Secretary's Report:

The December 18, 2025 minutes were not read. A copy is kept on file.

The Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was sent by email from Stacey Plooster. We have $18,754.10 deposited in the checking account.

The Prize Winners:

The winner of the 50/50 raffle for $65.00 was Burles Johnson. Clay Holland and Everitt Price each won a 1 oz. Silver Eagle. Fall

Our Coin Nov. 21 and 22 Coins Show Nov 21 (Friday) and Nov 22nd (Saturday) 2025 with Steve Nix as Bourse Chairman was another strong success for our club. It was held at the Columbia County Exhibition Center located at the Grovetown Walmart at exit 190. The dealers could set up Thursday night from 4 pm to 8w pm.. Mr. Sammy Lucky provided our postcards that were mailed. Thank you Mr. Lucky. Steve Nix reported the show was a huge success.

Show and Tells

The Show and Tell for January for our coin club will be added to the February minutes.

The Program:

Arno Safran gave a program on “Odd U.S Coinage”. He included the half-cent, two cent piece three cent silver and copper nickel pieces type 1875 to 1878 20 cent pieces Flowing Hair and Coiled Hair Four dollar gold Stellas These coins were never cent into circulation but they are worth a ton money today.

The half-cent, Two cent piece above the three cent and 20 cent pieces

Old Business:

Perfect attendance has been suspended. The 2026 Red Book from Leaphart Coins will be available for a cost of $12. Program givers will be awarded two Silver Eagles instead of a 1/10 oz. gold coin. Members, please pay your dues. This was the outcome of our Board of Directors Meeting on February 18, 2025. Rent to use the Sunrise Grill was raised from 50 dollars a meeting to 200 dollars a meeting. Shelby stated you must be a paid member to win a door prize.

New Business:

The Club Annual Election was held and the current board was reelected. Dues for 2026 will be $20; juniors are free.

Arno Safran won the drawing for putting on programs for our monthly meetings donated by Steve Damron Please pay your dues.

The prize was a $200 dollar gift certificate

Recently held Coin Shows
And upcoming ones

The Atlanta Monthly Show
February 8, 2026
Marietta, Ga (new location)

The ANA Money Show
February 26-28, 2026
Savannah, Ga
Middle GA. Coin Show
January 30-31 2026
Perry, Ga

Upstate Coin Show
February 20-22 2026
Spartanburg, SC
Low Country Coin Show
January 30- Feb 1 in Lanson,

Our club's monthly Coin Auction

VP 1 Burles Johnson ran the auction (11lots). Everette Price and Shelby Plooster delivered the goods as the

Respectively Submitted,
John Thomas Attaway

Kindly patronize our Advertisers

Since 1941
Clein's Rare Coins
3830 Washington Rd., Ste. 32 Martinez, GA 30907
Buying & Selling U.S. Coins, Currency & Confederate
- ALL GOLD & SILVER BULLION -
(Eagles, K-Rands, Maple Leafs & Pandas)
COIN APPRAISALS
LIFE MEMBER
STEVE DAMRON
Ph: (706) 755-2249
Fax: (706) 755-2461
Tue-Fri 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Sat. 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Respectful, Friendly & Courteous Service
Augusta Coin Exchange
JOHN M. RUSINKO
Mon - Fri | 11AM - 4PM
Sat | 11AM - 4PM
706.210.5486 | 702.845.1934
JR.Rusinko@yahoo.com
SeniorCoins1792@gmail.com
Member : ANA-R147538, CAC, PCGS, NGC & ICTA
Dealer LIC # 40829
Buying and Selling
4015 Washington Rd, STE - L
Martinez, GA 30907